

RIGBIE HOUSE or
"Philip's Purchase"
2 miles from Darlington
Harford County, Maryland.

HABS No. MD-24

HABS
MD.

13. DARL.V

1.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Headquarters Office, for John H. Scarff, District Officer
1012 Keyser Bldg., Baltimore, Md.

RIGBIE HOUSE
or
"Philip's Purchase"
2 miles from Darlington
Harford County, Maryland.

Owner: Mr. Jones.

Date of Erection: Stone part before 1732; frame part
about 1750.

Architect: No record.

Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: One and a half.

Materials of Construction: Stone, wood.

Other Existing Records: "Lafayette in Harford County" by
J. Alexis Shriver (1931); Paper owned and in
possession of Mrs. Edith M. Smith of Audrey,
Cermantown, Pa.; Printed Narrative of James
Rigbie.

Additional Data: See following pages.

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HISTORICAL DATA:

The patent is as follows: "Philip's Purchase, 2000 acres, surveyed 15 July, 1683, for James Philips".¹

On March 29, 1708, Thomas Tench (acting Governor of Maryland) willed to his grandson, Nathan Rigbie, "Philip's Purchase", 2000 acres on the Susquehanna River.²

Col. Nathan Rigbie was High Sheriff of Baltimore County and married in 1715 Cassandra Coale, the daughter of Philip and Cassandra (Skipwith Coale). The son of Nathan and Cassandra Rigbie was Col. James Rigbie, who also was High Sheriff, and entertained Lafayette here in 1781. Col. James Rigbie married in 1741 Elizabeth Harrison of "Holly Hill", Anne Arundel County.³

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1. Rent Roll, A. A. & Balt. Cos. #2, Folio 298, Land Office, Annapolis.
 2. Baldwin Calendar of Md. Wills, vol. 3, page 104.
 3. See Forman, H. C.: "The Turner Family of 'Hebron' and Betterton" (1933), and "Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland" (1934), pages 121 and 124.

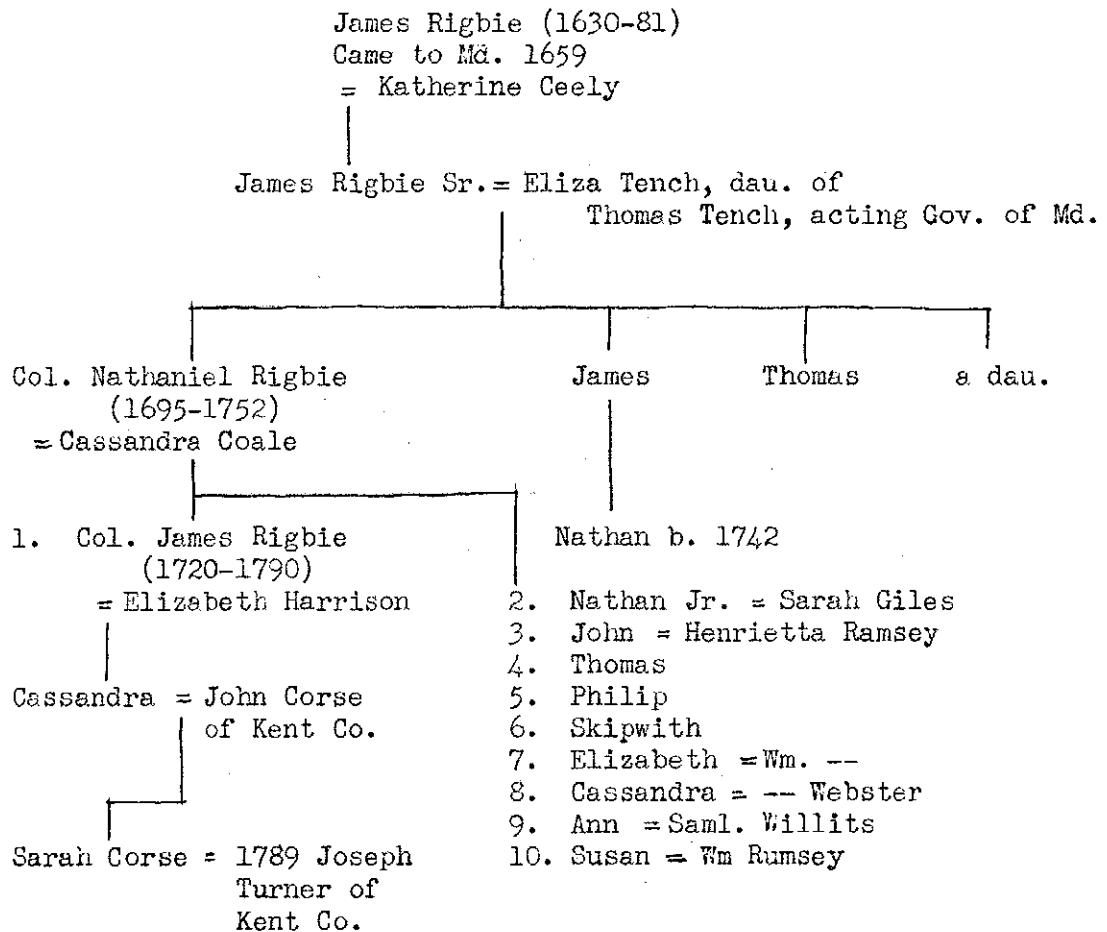
By *Henry Chandler Forman*
Assistant Architect
National Park Service

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GENEALOGICAL CHART OF RIGBIE FAMILY

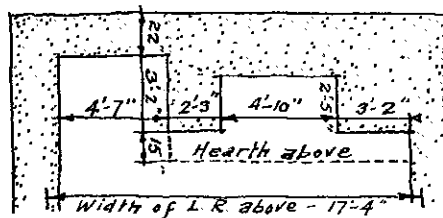


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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:¹

The old stone part of the house consists of a square kitchen whose walls are twenty-five inches thick. The frame part, built by Col. James Rigbie probably about 1750, has a large living room, a guest room and a dining room on the first floor, and two bed rooms upstairs under the sloping roof. The fireplace in the living room has been rebuilt in the center of the end of the room, and windows placed in the wall on either side of it. The foundation of this fireplace indicated that formerly the fireplace stood on the right hand side, with, perhaps, a closet between it and the wall, as shown in the conjectural sketch.

The position of the fireplace foundation is shown here:



The fine yellow pine panelling in the Living Room was covered with plaster until 1931, when Mr. J. Alexis Shriver restored the room and placed the two cupboards in the corners. The window frames are of black walnut.

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1. For measured plan, photographs of living room, stairway, and the old kitchen, see "Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland" (1934), pp. 121, 123, 124.

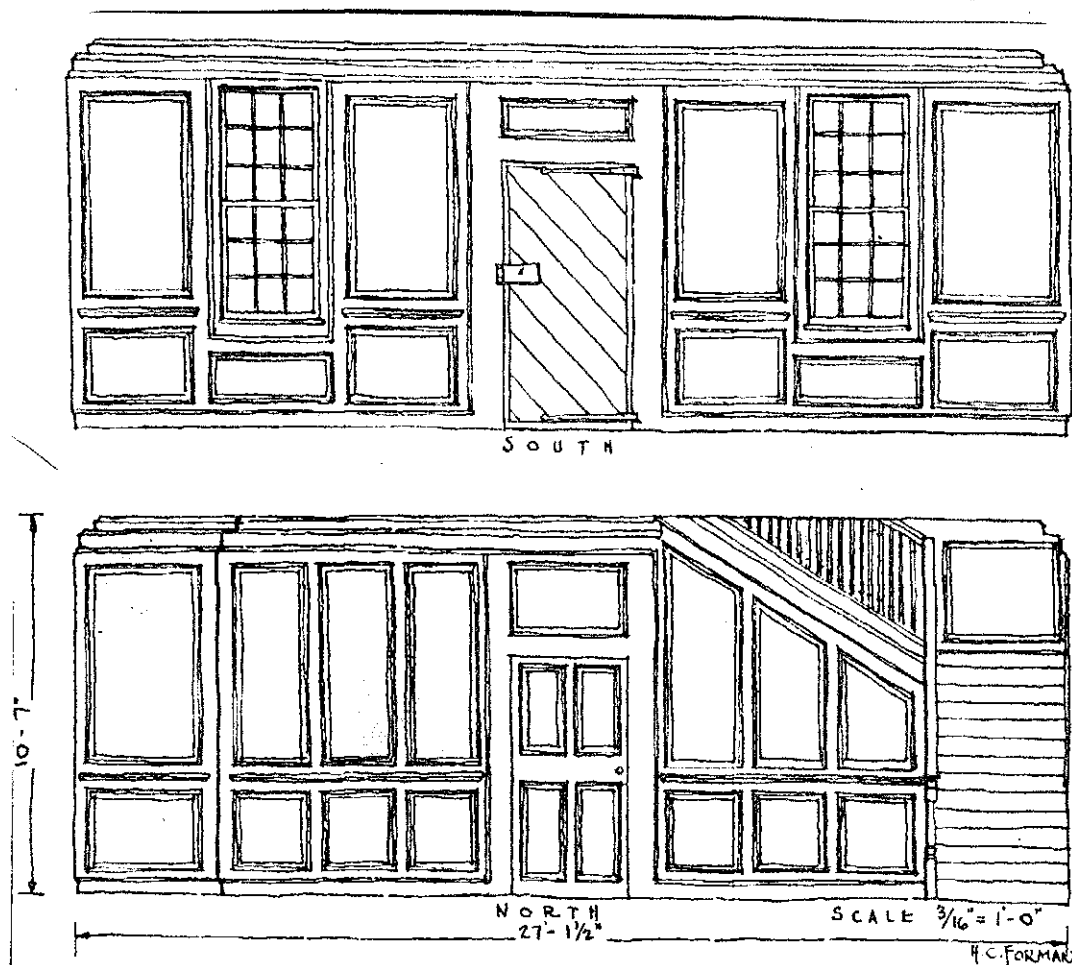
By *Harvey Chandler Torman*
Assistant Architect
National Park Service

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1-
PAGE 5



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Measured and Drawn at 1/8" scale for "Early Manor and
Plantation Houses of Maryland" (1934) by Henry C. Forman.

NORTH AND SOUTH SIDES OF LIVING ROOM

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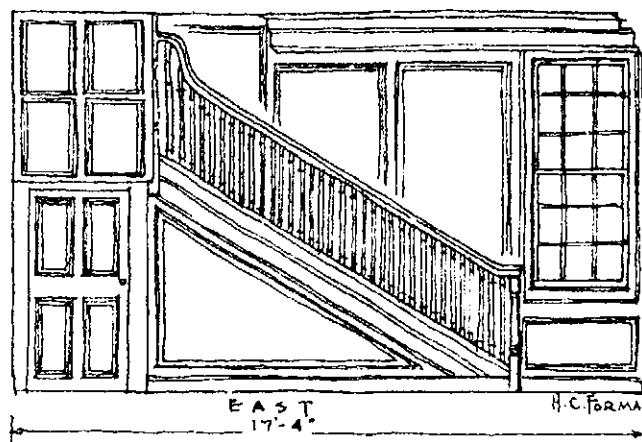
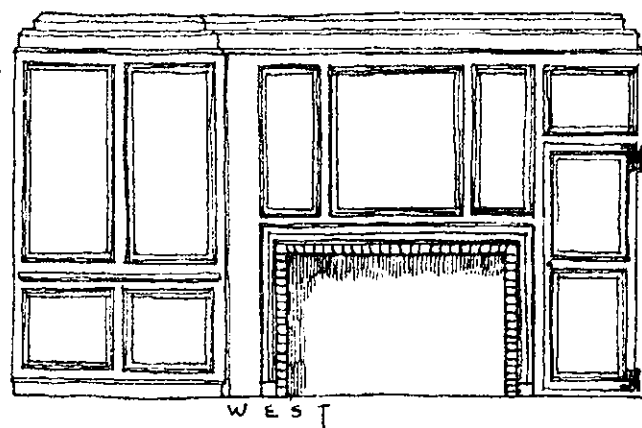
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PAGE 6



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(West End of Living Room is conjectured, having been
based on dimensions taken of the fireplace foundations).